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USSN: 10/781,332
Group Art Unit: 3744
Docket No.: 117P45USI4

Remarks

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated April 12, 2007.
Claims 1-23 are pending in this application, and claims 1-23 have been rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112, second paragraph

Claim 11 has been rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention because claim 11 claims that the solid product is injection molded and depends upon claim 10, which claims that the solid product is extruded. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 does not contradict claim 10. As stated on page 11, lines 17-28 in the specification, an example of how the solid product may be extruded onto the product carrier is to use injection molding. Claim 11 recites a type of extrusion done by injection molding. Thus, claim 11 recites a type of extruded solid product and is not contradictory to claim 10. Applicants respectfully request the removal of this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102(b)

Claim 19 has been rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,844,478 to Davis.

Davis discloses a deodorant block 10 including an adhesive layer 12 and a protective cover 14 over the adhesive layer 12 that may be easily peeled from the adhesive layer 12 just before attachment of the deodorant block 10 to a surface. A combined barrier and support layer or plate 24 may be interposed between the deodorant block 10 and the adhesive layer 12. Claim 19 has been amended to recite voids in the product carrier and the solid product filling the voids to secure the solid product to the product carrier. Davis does not disclose a product carrier including voids and a solid product filling the voids to secure the solid product to the product carrier, a substantial portion of the solid product extending from the first side of the product carrier and being exposed as recited in claim 19. Therefore, claim 19 is not anticipated by Davis. Applicants respectfully request the allowance of claim 19.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 10-12 and 20-22 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Davis. The Office Action states that Davis discloses a dispenser for a solid which is adhesively attached to a surface, substantially as claimed with the exception of specifying that the solid is extruded or injection molded.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite voids in the product carrier and the solid product filling the voids to secure the solid product to the product carrier. Applicants respectfully submit that Davis neither teaches nor suggests a product carrier with voids and a solid product extruded onto the product carrier and filling the voids of the product carrier to secure the solid product to the product carrier. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no reason to include such voids in the combined barrier and support layer or plate 24 of Davis because Davis is a deodorant block for attachment to a surface such as beneath or behind a piece of furniture and is not subjected to the contact of a fabric conditioner in a dryer as recited in claim 10. Allowance of claim 10 is respectfully requested.

Because claims 11 and 12 depend upon claim 10, it is respectfully requested that claims 11 and 12 also be allowed.

Because claims 20-22 depend upon claim 19, it is respectfully requested that claims 20-22 also be allowed.

Claims 10-12 and 19-22 have been rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,254,139 to Hendrickson et al.

Claim 10 recites a solid product extruded onto the product carrier and filling the voids of the product carrier to secure the solid product to the product carrier, a substantial portion of the solid product extending from the first side of the product carrier and being exposed. Claim 19 recites a solid product filling voids of the product carrier to secure the solid product to the product carrier, a substantial portion of the solid product extending from the first side of the product carrier and being exposed.

Hendrickson et al. discloses a laundry conditioner dispensing article including a layer of sorptive material (made of papers, plastics, rubbers, cloth sponges, fibers, felts, and nonwoven

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fabrics) for receiving a laundry conditioner. The layer of sorptive material contains and dispenses the conditioner. Hendrickson et al. neither teaches nor suggests a product carrier including voids and a solid product filling the voids to secure the solid product to the product carrier as recited in claims 10 and 19. Therefore, claims 10 and 19 are not obvious in view of Hendrickson et al.

Further, Hendrickson et al. teaches away from the use of a releasable adhesive as recited in claim 19. Column 2, lines 54-60 of Hendrickson et al. states that an object of the invention is to provide such an article wherein any necessity for the use of external means whatever and as typified by adhesive, clips, hook-loop fastener elements and the like to enable attachment of said article, to an internal wall portion of a rotatable drum washer, dryer or equivalent container means for fabrics is eliminated. Therefore, because Hendrickson et al. teaches away from using a releasable adhesive, claim 19 is not obvious in view of Hendrickson et al.

Applicants respectfully request the allowance of claims 10 and 19.

Because claims 11 and 12 depend upon claim 10, it is respectfully requested that claims 11 and 12 also be allowed.

Because claims 20-22 depend upon claim 19, it is respectfully requested that claims 20-22 also be allowed.

Claims 16-18 have been rejected as being unpatentable over either Hendrickson et al. or Davis in view of U.S. Patent 4,105,813 to Mizuno.

Because claims 16-18 depend upon claim 10, it is respectfully requested that claims 16-18 also be allowed.

Claims Rejections - Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 1-23 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-23 of U.S. Patent 6,799,740.

Claims 1-23 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent 6,908,041.

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Claims 11-23 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-44 of U.S. Patent 7,093,771.

A terminal disclaimer is being filed herewith. Therefore, the removal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

New Claims

Claims 24-32 have been added. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of these newly added claims.

Related Applications and Patents

Applicants would also like to update the Examiner on the status of the related applications and patents. The status of each matter is as follows:

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Status</u>
10/121,440	Issued as Patent No. 6,883,723
10/777,409	Issued as Patent No. 7,093,772
10/777,452	Issued as Patent No. 6,910,641
10/777,408	Issued as Patent No. 7,093,771
10/411,062	Issued as Patent No. 6,779,740
10/654,709	Issued as Patent No. 6,899,281
10/848,333	Issued as Patent No. 6,908,041
11/074,161	Pending
10/952,131	Issued as Patent No. 7,055,761
10/655,538	Issued as Patent No. 6,910,640

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Favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter, the Examiner is welcome to contact the under-signed representative for the Applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

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